

GIANT U. S. AIRBOAT
READY TO CROSS SEACurtiss's Colossus Capable of
Carrying Fifty in Trans-
atlantic Flight.

FLIES 9 MILES AN HOUR

Coast and West Indies Trade
to Get First Call in
Aviation.

A flight across the Atlantic is assured in the immediate future. This statement made on the authority of Glenn H. Curtiss, inventor of the flying boat and pioneer engineer in the airplane industry. The prediction of transoceanic flight has been made before by many prominent in aviation, but Mr. Curtiss's statement differs from other men because he adds he has built the machine which can bridge the ocean.

It may be that the honor of first flying from America to Europe will go to the United States Navy, for Mr. Curtiss's airboat, the largest and most powerful in existence, is a navy airboat, rather than a civilian one. The machine is of huge dimensions, but the best possible way of describing its power is to say it has carried 50 men in sustained flight. Its lifting capacity is five tons.

Because the Colossus is entirely the property of the navy, the inventor would not say any more than that he is willing to attempt to make by the giant aircraft as soon as certain modifications can be made. As constructed the Colossus is a fighting machine not intended primarily for such lengthy flights as crossing of the Atlantic. Naval aviators at Baltimore some days ago spoke guardedly of the possibility of transatlantic flight by the machine. They stated at that time that the Rockaway plane was the first of a series to be constructed for transatlantic flight.

Dwarfs All Aircraft.

The America, wonder of 1914, built by Mr. Curtiss for Rodman Wanamaker, who was backing Lieut. John Cyril Peto, Irish aviator, in his attempt to win the \$50,000 prize offered by the London Daily Mail, is dwarfed to insignificance by the great spread of the Colossus. The huge Sikorsky, 215 feet of wing spread, which carried seven men in Russia in 1914, is also smaller than the new flying boat. The Caproni triplane, with seats for twenty-five, likewise is dethroned as monarch of the air.

The flying boat is a biplane fitted with three motors, details and power of which are withheld. From tip to tip it has upper wings stretch 125 feet only ten feet less, by way of comparison, than the height of the Brooklyn Bridge. From prow to tail she is seventy feet long, and from the inner cockpit on the top wing to the keel is a distance of twenty-five feet. The distance between upper and lower planes is twelve feet.

The vessel was constructed by Mr. Curtiss for the navy as a submarine chaser, and armament—details withheld—was carried not only in the cockpit on the top wing, but also in another cockpit in the prow. In the way she is known as the Curtiss N. 1.

Makes Speed, Climbs Well.

Speed and ability to climb rapidly are of course essentials in submarine chasing, and the Colossus has both. She can make eighty miles an hour and can rise to a height of 5,000 feet in ten minutes. Ordinarily her crew is five men, the rest of her weight carried by capacity being used for bombs, ammunition, fuel, water and oil. Two rows sit side by side. They can reach each other at will, and a chance of killing one pilot would not, therefore, mean the destruction of the flying boat during an aerial engagement.

The large boat hull, hung underneath the lower wing, is noticeably white in appearance, for it has been found that this simple offers least resistance to air and water and is also the safest in rough water. Although nothing has been announced concerning the power of the three engines, a comparison with the power plans of other huge planes indicates that each engine must furnish more than 100 horse-power. The Sikorsky, for example, with a wing spread of 135 feet, had four Argus motors of 100 horse-power each. The first of Signor Caproni's models, a biplane with wing spread of seventy-three feet, had three engines of 100 horse-power. The latest Caproni, when tested at Mineola on September 12 last, was furnished with three Liberty motors of unknown power. This plane made a speed of 105 miles an hour carrying five men and 1,000 pounds of load.

Ocean No Barrier.

The transatlantic flight is, of course, a matter for the Navy Department to decide, but although he would not discuss possible plans for its execution on this account Mr. Curtiss said without reservation that the flight was within the power of the Colossus. Although reluctant to talk on this subject Mr. Curtiss spoke at length to the further development and predicted the commercial use of seaplanes for passenger and freight service between ports along the Atlantic coast and the West Indies.

"Of course one of the first developments in commercial aviation will be the use of flying boats and seaplanes for passenger and package carrying along the Atlantic coast and the West Indies," he said. "I believe we shall soon have transatlantic flights. The reason I believe this and that I believe marine flying generally will be developed quicker than land flying is because, no new landing fields are needed. In other words, terminal facilities are already provided, for quiet harbors, rivers and small lakes are ideal landing places."

Mr. Curtiss praised the Navy Department for its financial assistance in the experimental work necessary for the development of such a machine as the Colossus.

Clarkson in Defence Council.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Governor B. Clarkson of New York has been elected member of the Council of National Defense to succeed W. S. Gifford, who recently resigned to return to private business.

PIPER ENDS HIS LIFE IN CELL.

Broker Was Accused of Murder of
Young Chicago Girl.

MUSKOGEE, Mich., Dec. 21.—Within a foot of a guard who had been stationed outside his cell, to thwart any attempt at suicide, Milo H. Piper, local insurance broker charged with the murder of Miss Freda Welchman of Chicago, hanged himself in his cell to-night.

Jealous Japanese Kills Doctor.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21.—Dr. Moberly Ishida, a Japanese and a member of the medical staff of the Sheppard-Pratt Hospital here, shot and instantly killed Dr. George B. Wolfe, another physician of the hospital, in the office of the institution to-day. Jealousy over one of the nurses prompted the deed, according to the police.

900,000 HOME ARMY
TO BE FREED SOONGen. March Says 218,465 Had
Been Demobilized Up to
December 14.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Demobilization of the home military forces at the rate of 30,000 a day, the goal set less than a month ago by the War Department, has been reached if not exceeded.

Gen. March, Chief of Staff, announced to-day that demobilization at the home camps during the seven day period ended March 14 was at the rate of 27,000 a day, although no men

were discharged from most of the camps on Sunday.

Total demobilization on December 14 had reached 29,903 officers and 183,562 men. The Chief of Staff said more than 900,000 men had been assigned for early demobilization, including 21,000 divisional troops, 45,000 Engineers and 16,000 men of the military aeronautics division.

Gen. March made public a report from Gen. Pershing under date of December 15 saying at that time a total of 3,110 American officers and men taken prisoner by the enemy had been released, and that only a few Americans in isolated camps remained prisoners.

Red Cross workers and allied and neutral agents, the report said, are now searching for the few Americans still held prisoners.

As an illustration of the possible heavy flow of troops returning from France on board the largest ships Gen. March announced that the steamship Leviathan, making ten trips, had car-

ried an average of 9,418 men to France on each trip. Seven other ships of unusual tonnage averaged better than 2,000 men each trip.

Every effort is being made to arrange for the delivery of mail consigned to units which have been designated for early return, the Chief of Staff said. In cases where a majority of the members of any unit have been ordered home the mail is held in the United States until the organization arrives and a report is made of the men left in France. The mail addressed to these men then is sorted out and sent across.

In cases where only a small proportion of a unit is homebound the mail for the entire unit is shipped to France, and that consigned to the men who have been returned home is sorted out in France and redirected.

Gen. March disclosed the fact that the communication facilities with the American forces in Russia, particularly in the Archangel area, have been

unsatisfactory. The War Department itself has had difficulty in communicating important military instructions to the commander, and only meagre despatches have come through to this end. Gen. March said he felt sure that the authorities in Great Britain and France, through whom these messages pass, are doing everything possible to improve the situation.

In answer to a question Gen. March said that coast artillery units which were being used for army and corps artillery are all being returned to this country, but those which were serving as divisional artillery probably will stay abroad for some time.

Sailing of five transports bringing home troops from France was announced to-day by the War Department. La France sailed December 17 with 385 officers, 3,337 men, 21 nurses, 15 French mission officers and several civilians. On the 18th the Aeolus sailed with 2,929 sick and wounded including 105 officers. The Ticonderoga sailed on the 18th with 18 officers and

70 enlisted men, the Samland on the 17th with 8 officers and 4 civilians and the Terente on the 18th with one casual enlisted man.

WOULD HURRY SOLDIERS' PAY.
Baker Asks Law to End Delays for Wounded Veterans.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Immediate legislation to permit the War Department to pay in full soldiers returning from overseas for hospital treatment was asked of Congress to-day by Secretary Baker in letters to Vice-President Marshall and Speaker Clark. He said 97 per cent. of the soldier patients arrive in the United States without service records or other papers showing the date to which they were last paid.

He suggested a law authorizing the War Department to pay the men upon their personal affidavit as to the date of last payment and condition of their accounts.

JANET BEECHER SUES HUSBAND.
Actress seeks Divorce From Harry R. Guggenheimer.

The fact that Janet Beecher, actress, is seeking a divorce from Harry R. Guggenheimer, son of the late Randolph Guggenheimer, first President of the Borough of Manhattan, became known yesterday when the actor came before Judge Tompkins at Nycl on a motion by the plaintiff's attorney to confirm a report made by a referee. The name of the woman in the case has not been divulged.

The Guggenheimers were married July 3, 1913. Two years later they separated. Incompatibility was given as the reason.

Mr. Guggenheimer is a brother of Charles Guggenheimer of the law firm of Guggenheimer, Untermeyer & Marshall.

Gift Suggestion
SILK HOSIERY
For Women and Misses
Fine quality pure thread black silk hose, heavy weight; also white in medium weight; lister garter top.
1.25
Three pairs for \$3.65

IF IT IS "NEW"
You Will Find It At
Franklin Simon's

EVEN though we are in the midst of the Holiday season, and uppermost in everybody's mind is "What to Give," the spirit of Spring radiates through each and every Individual Shop.

The Fashionable Woman knows that if she contemplates a trip to one of the many well known Winter resorts, the Franklin Simon Individual Shops of "Correct Dress" have anticipated her every wish.

It is always the advance version of Today's Fashion, and so successfully achieved as to invariably appeal to those who strive for the ever "New."

GIFT SUGGESTIONS
French Kid Gloves
For Women and Misses

Unusual at 2.50

Two clasp French glove kid gloves, in white, black, silver, gray, taupe, tan or brown; over-seam sewn, Paris point or stitched backs.

WOMEN'S GLOVE SHOP, Main Floor

Taffeta Silk Umbrellas
For Women and Misses

Unusual at 5.00

For sun or rain, in black or colors; straight handles, leather or silk wrist straps, also bakelite rings.

WOMEN'S UMBRELLA SHOP, Fourth Floor

Clearance Sale Monday
Women's Wool Sweaters
Of Angora or Vicuna Wool

6.50

Heretofore \$9.75 to \$19.50

Slip-over or coat models in desirable colors; included are hand knitted sweaters.

WOMEN'S SWEATER SHOP, Fourth Floor

Join the Red Cross
All You Need is a Heart and a Dollar**Franklin Simon & Co.**

A Store of Individual Shops

Fifth Avenue, 37th and 38th Streets

Women's Suit Shop Features for Monday

NEW MODEL WINTER SUITS

Collars of Gray Australian Opossum Fur

Suits of duvet de laine or wool velour in navy, henna, or taupe; showing the fashionable box coat with waistcoat of artillery red, smoke gray or Victory blue broadcloth, also sash tie or belted coats; new model ankle length skirts.

Unusual at 58.00

WOMEN'S SUIT SHOP, Balcony Floor

Women's Coat Shop Features for Monday

FUR COLLARED COATS

Also smartly tailored models

Warm winter coats in several distinct models, made of the very desirable Pom Pom Bolivia or suede wool velour; shawl or high roll collars of nutria or French seal fur, also collars of self material; lined, warmly interlined.

Unusual at 45.00

WOMEN'S COAT SHOP, Fourth Floor

Misses' Coat Shop Features for Monday

The New "Leathertone"

MCOT or SKATING COATS

For the Miss or Junior Miss

Two new models of Russet "leathertone" in seven-eighth or box coat lengths, lined with suede cloth to give warmth; both models are pocketed and buckle belted. 13 to 20 years.

Unusual at 19.75

MISSSES' COAT SHOP, Second Floor

Misses' Gown Shop Features for Monday

MISSSES' EVENING GOWNS

Of silk net, combined with pastel tinted silver cloth

This dainty gown has a tinted silver cloth bodice in rose, orchid or turquoise blue, with skirt ruffled from waist to hem with silk net in white or evening shades over silver cloth; trimmed with flowers in pastel shades. 14 to 20 years.

Unusual at 38.00

MISSSES' GOWN SHOP, Second Floor

Sateen

—The Fabric of the Hour for just such stunning costumes as illustrated

Women's SATEEN DRESS

58.00

Sateen Coat

(to match dress)

45.00

SATEEN of the excellent quality that models this attractive costume and the rich shade of African brown, make it practical for a variety of occasions.

When the buckle belted coat is removed, one is dressed in a smart one-piece gown, with a draped bodice fastened with buckle at back, flat rounded collar of organdie; three tier ankle length skirt.

Women's Evening Gowns

of "Puppy Skin" Silk, embroidered with Silver Threads

A soft silk in delicate shades of turquoise, peach or pink also white or black; deep V-bodice and draped tunic embroidered with silver threads; flowing sleeves of silk net.

Unusual at 48.00

WOMEN'S GOWN SHOP, Third Floor

A New Boot Fashion**Black Buckskin Boots**

For Women and Misses

Unusual at 16.00

Black buckskin laced dress boots of finest quality; made on our graceful long vamp lasts, with hand sewed turned soles, shapely high arches and Louis XV heels.

Absolutely the newest and most exclusive dress boot for this Winter.

WOMEN'S SHOE SHOP, Third Floor

